

Minutes

Des Moines Recreation River and Greenbelt Advisory Committee Meeting September 27, 2002

*Iowa State Historical Building
Des Moines, Iowa*

The Des Moines Recreation River and Greenbelt Advisory Committee meeting was convened at 9:30 AM on September 27, 2002, at the Iowa State Historical Building, Des Moines, Iowa by Chair Jeffrey Vonk. There were 28 members of the Advisory Committee in attendance, and 15 guests, including Congressman Neal Smith. Attendance roster is attached.

Chair Jeff Vonk welcomed committee members and guests and recognized Congressman Smith for his vision in establishing the Des Moines Recreation River and Greenbelt Project. Congressman Smith spoke briefly on the original intent and purposes of the Greenbelt Project.

Gary Loss of the Rock Island District Corps of Engineers Office recognized the contributions of three members and supporters of the Greenbelt Project who have died recently---Jim Mills, USACOE; Lee Dallager, City of Des Moines; and Dick LeCroy of Des Moines.

Dennis Hamilton, COE, provided a briefing on the Greenbelt Project, its funding history, procedures and processes, status of projects and changes that have taken place since the Advisory Committee was last active. Most noteworthy among those changes is the need for local project sponsors to provide cost-sharing on preliminary development of design documents. In previous years, these costs were absorbed up front by the Corps. Any new projects will require local project financial cost-sharing from the outset.

Representatives from Ft. Dodge, Marion County and Des Moines each provided overviews of their respective projects.

A motion was made by Richard Brannon and seconded by Brian Holt to add these three projects to the list of 125 approved projects for the Greenbelt and to place them in positions of priority. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. It was the consensus of the Advisory Committee that a letter be sent to Iowa's congressional delegation advising them of the advisory committee's support of these three projects, and urging their support and passage of an appropriation of at least \$1.4 million to be divided between Ft. Dodge (\$400,000), Des Moines (\$500,000) and Marion County (\$500,000).

A concern was raised in regard to the growing need to acknowledge and pursue funding for the repair and renovation of trails already built within the Greenbelt. There was wide support among committee members in regard to this issue and it will be an agenda item to be pursued in some detail at the next Advisory Committee meeting.

A second issue to be addressed at the next Advisory Committee meeting is that of updating the list of 125 approved projects that currently exists. Many have been completed using alternative funding sources or have been dropped. There is a need to cleanse the list.

The Committee's next meeting will be in November, 2002, at a time and place to be determined.

Brian Holt advised there is a need to reprint the Dragoon Trail Brochure and that the Central Iowa Tourism Region provides grant assistance for such printing needs. Deadline for applications for CITR

grants is noon on Monday, September 30, 2002. While it may not be practical to meet this deadline, Arnie Sohn indicated the IDNR would pursue a reprint of the brochure in a manner similar to the last reprint wherein cities and counties who were interested in having a supply of the brochure on hand contributed funding toward the printing costs.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30.

Attendance Roster

Des Moines Recreation River and Greenbelt Advisory Committee Meeting

September 27, 2002

Iowa State Historical Building, Des Moines, Iowa

<u>NAME</u>	<u>APPOINTING AUTHORITY</u>
Neil Ruddy	Carlisle (for Doug Adamson)
Eddie Peterson	Webster County
John Hale	Governor Vilsack
Angela Connolly	Polk County
Rick Clark	Des Moines
Donna Phipps	Governor Vilsack
Bill Burch	Polk City
Judy Burch	Guest
Mike Blouin	Governor Vilsack
Richard Brannon	Polk County
Kent Harfst	Webster City
Greg Thede	Boone
Marvin Shirley	Dallas County
Mike Wallace	Dallas County
Tom Foster	Boone County
Missy King	Boone County
Mary O'Keefe	Governor Vilsack
Carroll Hunter	Warren County
Neal Smith	Guest
Mark Ackelson	Pleasant Hill
Jeff May	Knoxville
John Franey	Governor Vilsack
Bill Shepherd	Marion County
Steve Edwards	Marion County
Sheri Richardson-Duey	Corps of Engineers, Rock Island
Dennis Plautz	Webster County
Todd Redenius	Ft. Dodge
Perry Hubert	Staff person, Corps of Engineers, Rock Island
Dave Ciaccio	Guest (Ft. Dodge Riverfront Consultant)
John Crose	Guest (Principal Riverwalk Consultant)
Kari Stecher	Guest (Principal Riverwalk Consultant)
Liz Christiansen	Guest, Deputy Director, Iowa DNR
Jeff Vonk	Director, Iowa DNR—Governor's Appointee, Chair Person
Gary Loss	Corps of Engineers, Rock Island
Dennis Hamilton	Lead Staff, Corps of Engineers, Rock Island
Arnie Sohn	Lead Staff, Iowa DNR
Jim Grant	Guest, Des Moines
Don Tripp	Guest, Des Moines
Mary Kay Wilcox	Lead Staff, Des Moines
Don McLaughlin	Guest, Des Moines
Brian Holt	Hamilton County
John Moreland	Guest, Sen. Harkin's Staff
Steve Bell	Pella

Appointed Members Absent:

Ivan Richards, Warren County

Sid Sandholm, Dayton

Mike Paris, Fraser

Paula Martin, Lehigh

Ted Ohmart, West Des Moines

Kenn Shoemaker, Corps of Engineers

Greg Gardy, Mahaska County

Mike Gipple, Mahaska County

Advisory Committee Seats unfilled as of September 27 2002

Hartford (1)

Harvey (1)

Johnston (1)

Pilot Mound (1)

Madrid (1)

Stratford (1)

Swan (1)

Hamilton County (1 of 2)

Jasper County (2)